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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/664,045

09/16/2003

Ronald L. Bruening

21058.NP

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7590

05/31/2006

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EXAMINER

COVINGTON, RAYMOND K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1625

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/664,045

Applicant(s)

BRUENING ET AL.

Examiner

Raymond Covington

Art Unit

1625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In claim 22, the second line of step (b), the term “bee” appears to be misspelled. Correction is required.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 2 and 24 contain function language “B and B' are configured to substantially allow the target enantiomer to bind to the composition and B and B' being further configured to substantially sterically hinder the counter-enantiomer from binding to the composition”. This is a recitation of a means or step for performing a specified function without the recital of structure, material, or acts in support thereof. It is not clear what applicants regard as the invention.

Claims 2 and 24 are rejected as the term "substantially" is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "substantially" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the

requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The point of attachment of the optically active ligand to the support is not indicated.

Claim 4 recites the limitation "pyridyl" in the second line. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim from which it depends.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1- 36 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw et al J. Org. Chem. Vol. 55 pp 3129-3132(1990) and/or Zhang et al Chem. Rev. v.97 pp 3313-3361(1997) in view of Cram US 4,001,279. applicants' comments have been noted and considered but are not deemed persuasive of patentability.

Bradshaw et al and Zhang et al teach macrocycle compositions of the type recited in the claims for use in enantiomeric separation. See, respectively Bradshaw et al, pages 3129, 3130, 3132 Table II formula I in particular where R is

t-butyl or phenyl and Y is O, and, Zhang et al page 3316, chart 1 and 3318 section B.

Bradshaw et al J. and Zhang et al differ in that they do not teach using a solid support as claimed. However, Bradshaw et al does teach silica gel or polystyrene as the host material (read support) to which chiral macrocyclic ligands are bound. See, e.g. page 3129 introduction paragraph and schemes I and II, which show analogous pyridine macrocycles.

However, Cram '279 teaches analogous macrocycle compositions on a solid support of the same type as recited in the claims. See column 2 lines 55-65, column 7 lines 1-10 and column 2 lines 50-60. See in particular column 30 lines 45+ and column 31 lines 30+ for the binaphthyl derivatives and column 25 lines 65 for the polymer support.

In view of the art as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Bradshaw et al J. and Zhang et al to include the solid support of Cram in order to enhance separation efficiency.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raymond Covington whose telephone number is (571) 272-0681. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas McKenzie at telephone number (571) 272-0670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Re


Thomas McKenzie
SPE
Art Unit 1625